GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:355
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2003
SUBMISSION OF REPORT BY EXPERT GROUP
PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Expert Group set up to advise on the methodology and criteria to identify Below Poverty Line(BPL) families has since submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the salient features of the recommendations of the Expert Group; and

(d) the status of their implementation?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTAITON, MINISTER OF STATE IN TH MINISTRY OF PLANNING & MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI S. B. MOOKHERJEE)

(a) to (c): Yes Sir, the Expert Group to advise on the criteria, methodology and Survey Schedules for BPL Census (2002) has submitted its report in September 2002. The report has recommended that thirteen scorable socio-economic indicators namely, Size group of operational holding of land, Type of house, Average availability of normal wear clothing, Food security, Sanitation, Ownership of consumer durables, Literacy status of the highest literate adult, Status of the household in labour force, Means of Livelihood, Status of children, Type of indebtedness, Reasons for migration from household and Preference for assistance, each having scores 0,1,2,3,4 depending on the status of the household, are to be used for working out a composite score for each rural household.

(d): On the basis of the recommendations of Expert Group the State Governments/UT Administrations were issued instructions to carry out the BPL Census, which was to be completed in June, 2003. However, due to the ruling of the Hon`ble Supreme Court, in People`s Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL) Writ Petition no. 196 of 2001, the results of the BPL Census have not been finalized.